

## Region 4 Fact Sheet

### Geographic summary

States: Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee

Tribes: Catawba Indian Nation, Choctaw Band of Mississippi Indians, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, and Seminole Tribe of Florida.

### Logistics

Regional Office headquarters: 61 Forsyth St., SW Atlanta, GA

Geographic office: Gulf of Mexico Division in Gulfport, MS (also supports Region 6)

Laboratory: Athens, GA

Staff: Approximately 865 FTE

### Top environmental priorities and challenges

- Process incoming SIP submissions within statutory timeframes and continue the reduction in the SIP backlog (where not otherwise constrained by national holds); and work with the states to return remaining nonattainment areas to attainment.
- Assist states in the southeast with the authorization of the Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) program.
- Review and approve the Certification and Training (C&T) plans in accordance with the updated C&T rule requirements.
- Continue to coordinate closely with FEMA and other partners to support the long-term recovery program in natural disaster areas (Florida Panhandle) to effectively connect various elements of the community vision into a locally driven design that integrates stormwater management and greenspace protection strategies into an implementable vision and economic development opportunities. (Recovery and Resiliency Partnership Projects – R2P2).
- Continue working closely with the states for timely submittal of the Underground Storage Tanks State Program State re-authorizations.
- Work with Tribes, states and local entities to address ageing infrastructure for both drinking water and wastewater through loan and grant programs to ensure clean and safe drinking water. Identify and mitigate challenges that impact exposure to lead and copper and address emerging contaminants such as PFOA and PFOS.
- Coordinate with federal, state, local and private partners on restoration activities in South Florida, including ongoing restoration efforts in the Everglades and the Florida Keys where water quality and habitat are directly affected by land-based sources of pollution.
- Address compliance challenges exacerbated by aging and failing infrastructure in economically disadvantaged communities.
- Ensure clean air in communities by identifying and reducing excess volatile organic compounds and hazardous air pollutants emitted into the atmosphere by stationary and mobile sources of air pollution and sources of hazardous waste. Also, reducing exposure and risk from accidental releases of harmful chemicals through compliance with the Risk Management Program.
- Develop innovative offsite compliance monitoring activities which meet new compliance monitoring objectives while protecting the health and safety of EPA inspectors, public, and regulated entities during the pandemic.
- Coordinate on national policy direction by serving as Lead Region for the Superfund Program.
- Maintain a robust emergency response program in order to fulfill EPA's Primary Mission Essential Function. Responding to such events requires considerable investment of resources and coordination.
- Address residential lead contamination at major Superfund sites in the southeast.
- Continue to develop innovative approaches and tools, at the regional level, to facilitate the reuse of Superfund sites many of which have been adopted at the national level.
- Focus on addressing the twenty federal facilities, including three DOE former nuclear weapons complex mega-site, on the National Priorities List through cleanup and reuse support.